

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A An automotive component composition exhibiting improved heat resistance, pressure resistance, and fluid impermeability for heat-tolerant, pressure-resistant elastomeric copolymer composition exhibiting improved hydrocarbon fluid impermeability, wherein said composition is useful in the manufacture of automotive hoses, belts, seals, dampers and engine mounts which require resistance to heat, pressure and hydrocarbon fluids, said composition comprising a an elastomeric copolymer containing a first vinyl ester and a second vinyl ester two or more vinyl esters wherein said two or more vinyl esters are different from each other.
2. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said two or more vinyl esters includes a first vinyl ester and a second vinyl ester wherein said first vinyl ester is a vinyl ester of a lower carboxylic acid and said second vinyl ester is a vinyl ester of a fatty acid.
3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said first vinyl ester is vinyl acetate and said second vinyl ester is vinyl laurate.
4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said ~~elastomer~~ composition comprises about 2 to 75% by weight vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymer.
5. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein said elastomeric copolymer comprises about 50 to 80% by weight vinyl acetate and about 50 to 20% by weight vinyl laurate.
6. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3 1 further comprising 0 to about 75% by weight of an elastomeric polymer selected from the group consisting of an ethylene-vinyl ester of a C₂ to C₆ carboxylic acid, chlorinated polyolefin, chlorosulfonated polyolefin, polychloroprene, ethylene-acrylic rubber, alkyl acrylate copolymer, polyvinyl acetate, acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber, hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber, ethylene-propylene diene terpolymer, styrene-butadiene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber, butyl rubber, cis-polybutadiene, cis-polyisoprene, polyurethane, polyamide and combinations thereof.
7. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 6 wherein said elastomeric polymer is an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer comprising about 40 to 80% by weight vinyl acetate and about

60 to 20% by weight ethylene.

8. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 further comprising about 25 to 75% by weight of one or more additives selected from the group consisting of process aids, fillers, plasticizers, metal oxides, metal hydroxides, peroxides, coagents, antioxidants and combinations thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 8, wherein said composition comprises:

about 2 to 75% by weight vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymer;

about 0 to 75% by weight ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer;

~~about 0.8 to 2%~~ 0 to about 8% by weight one or more processing aids selected from the group consisting of stearic acid, stearates, 1-octanedecanamine, polyethylene, amines, oils, organic esters, organic phosphate esters and combinations thereof;

about 20 to 60% by weight one or more fillers selected from the group consisting of carbon black, graphite, silicone dioxide, fumed silica, precipitated silica, diatomaceous earth, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate, magnesium silicate, aluminum silicate, titanium dioxide, talc, mica, aluminum sulfate, calcium sulfate, wollastonite, molybdenum disulfide, clay, calcium carbonate and combinations thereof;

about 3 to 15% by weight one or more plasticizers selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbons, glycols, aldehydes, ethers, esters, ether-ester, trioctyl trimellitate and combinations thereof;

~~about 0 to~~ about 10% by weight one or more metal oxides and/or hydroxides selected from the group consisting of zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, calcium oxide, calcium hydroxide, aluminum hydroxide and combinations thereof; about 0.5 to 4% by weight one or more peroxides selected from the group consisting of 2,5-dimethyl-2, 5-di(t-butylperoxy)hexyne-3; 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(t-butylperoxy)hexane; α , α' -bis(t-butylperoxy)-p-diisopropylbenzene; dicumyl peroxide; di-t-butyl peroxide; 1,1-bis(t-butylperoxy)3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexane; 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide; benzoyl peroxide; p-chlorobenzoyl peroxide; 4,4-bis(t-butylperoxy)valerate; t-butylcumyl peroxide; di-t-amyl peroxide; t-butyl hydroperoxide and combinations thereof;

~~about 0 to~~ about 5% by weight one or more coagents selected from the group consisting of maleimides, triallyl cyanurate, triallyl isocyanurate, diallyl terephthalate, 1,2-vinyl polybutadiene, di- and tri-functional methacrylates, diacrylates, metal ion versions thereof and combinations thereof; and

~~about~~ 0 to about 3% by weight one or more antioxidants selected from the group consisting of phenols, hydrocinnamates, hydroquinones, hydroquinolines, diphenylamines, mercaptobenzimidazoles and combinations thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 9, wherein said composition comprises: about 2 to 75% by weight vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymer containing about 50 to 80% by weight vinyl acetate and about 50 to 20% by weight vinyl laurate;

about 0.2 to 0.7% by weight stearic acid;

about 23 to 38% by weight carbon black;

about 2 to 5% by weight silicon dioxide;

about 3 to 7% by weight trioctyl trimellitate;

~~about~~ 0 to about 7% by weight adipate type plasticizer;

~~about~~ 0 to about 8% by weight magnesium oxide;

about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight 1-octanodecanamine;

about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight organic phosphate ester;

about 0.5 to 4% by weight organic peroxide;

about 0.25 to 1% by weight triallyl cyanurate;

about 0.25 to 1% by weight N,N', n-phenylenedimaleimide; and

about 0.25 to ~~2%~~ 3% by weight antioxidant selected from the group consisting of phenols, hydrocinnamates, diphenylamines, hydroquinones, hydroquinolines and mixtures thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 9, wherein said composition comprises:

about 5 to 30% by weight vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymer containing about 50 to 80% by weight vinyl acetate and about 50 to 20% by weight vinyl laurate;

about 20 to 50% by weight ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer containing about 50 to 80% by weight vinyl acetate and about 80 to 50% by weight ethylene;

about 0.2 to 0.7% by weight stearic acid;

about 23 to 38% by weight carbon black;

about 2 to 5% by weight silicon dioxide;

about 3 to 7% by weight trioctyl trimellitate;

~~about~~ 0 to about 7% by weight adipate type plasticizer;

~~about~~ 0 to about 8% by weight magnesium oxide;

about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight 1-octanodecanamine;

about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight organic phosphate ester;
about 0.5 to 4% by weight organic peroxide;
about 0.25 to 1% by weight triallyl cyanurate;
about 0.25 to 1% by weight N,N', n-phenylenedimaleimide; and
about 0.25 to 2% 3% by weight antioxidant selected from the group consisting of
phenols, hydrocinnamates, diphenylamines, hydroquinones, hydroquinolines and mixtures
thereof.

12-38 (Withdrawn)

39. (New) An automotive component composition exhibiting improved heat resistance,
pressure resistance, and fluid impermeability, wherein said composition comprises:
about 2 to 75% by weight vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymer containing about 50 to 80% by
weight vinyl acetate and about 50 to 20% by weight vinyl laurate;

about 0.2 to 0.7% by weight stearic acid;
about 23 to 38% by weight carbon black;
about 2 to 5% by weight silicon dioxide;
about 3 to 7% by weight trioctyl trimellitate;
about 0 to about 7% by weight adipate type plasticizer;
about 0 to about 8% by weight magnesium oxide;
about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight 1-octanedecanamine;
about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight organic phosphate ester;
about 0.5 to 4% by weight organic peroxide;
about 0.25 to 1% by weight triallyl cyanurate;
about 0.25 to 1% by weight N,N', n-phenylenedimaleimide; and
about 0.25 to 2% 3% by weight antioxidant selected from the group consisting of
phenols, hydrocinnamates, diphenylamines, hydroquinones, hydroquinolines and mixtures
thereof.

40. (New) An automotive component composition exhibiting improved heat resistance,
pressure resistance, and fluid impermeability, wherein said composition comprises:
about 5 to 30% by weight vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymer containing about 50 to
80% by weight vinyl acetate and about 50 to 20% by weight vinyl laurate;
about 20 to 50% by weight ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer containing about 50 to

80% by weight vinyl acetate and about 80 to 50% by weight ethylene;
about 0.2 to 0.7% by weight stearic acid;
about 23 to 38% by weight carbon black;
about 2 to 5% by weight silicon dioxide;
about 3 to 7% by weight trioctyl trimellitate;
about 0 to about 7% by weight adipate type plasticizer;
~~about~~ 0 to about 8% by weight magnesium oxide;
about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight 1-octanedecanamine;
about 0.1 to 0.75% by weight organic phosphate ester;
about 0.5 to 4% by weight organic peroxide;
about 0.25 to 1% by weight triallyl cyanurate;
about 0.25 to 1% by weight N,N', n-phenylenedimaleimide; and
about 0.25 to 2% 3% by weight antioxidant selected from the group consisting of
phenols, hydrocinnamates, diphenylamines, hydroquinones, hydroquinolines and mixtures
thereof.